

# COURT'S DECISION ON SPECIAL SUBJECT AT STATE CONVENTION

## Special Session Set Aside at Annual Convention of Maine State Federation of Labor to Discuss Future of Code Schedules

### Convention Opens This Morning in American Legion Hall, Rumford, With Largest Number of Delegates Present in Several Years—Port of Portland, Quoddy Project and Legislative Matters on Convention Program for Action —Host of Representatives of International Unions on Speaking Program—Pulp Paper Situation to Be Dis- cussed at Special Meeting.

All roads lead to Rumford today, when for four days problems confronting labor will be discussed by delegates representing local unions, central bodies and building trades councils from all organized cities and towns in the State, at the 35th annual convention of the Maine State Federation of Labor.

Credentialed received up to last night by Clarence B. Burgess, secretary of the Federation, indicate the convention will be one of the largest in its history in several years, and the business scheduled for action is such as to make it the most important convention held since its institution.

Principal among these, of course, will be the United States Supreme Court's decision which brought about abolition of the "kick-back" and what measures are to be taken for making conditions established by the code operative. This discussion is scheduled to occur at Wednesday evening's session, with Harry A. Russell, regional director, and Nelson H. Crulshank, field representative for the Workers Education Bureau, speaking.

# "Kick Back" Practises Bring Grief to Twelve Bldg. Contractors

## Wages Kept From Mechanics Employed on PWA Projects Brings Grief From Court Officer—Federal Law Carries Maximum Sentence of Two Years' Imprisonment and \$10,000 Fine.

Philadelphia, June 8 (AP).—A special Federal grand jury here indicted 12 officers and employees of the Federal Public Works Administration on charges of defrauding workers of their rightful wages either through "kick-back" methods or by wrong classification of jobs.

The jury turned the indictment over to Federal Judge George R. Walsh with detailed reports which called for a vigorous manner with the practices used to defraud workers by contractors and sub-contractors on the Delaware River bridges high-speed traction line, the Naval Hospital and other projects.

According to the grand jury's report, in some cases the chiselers defrauded the workers of two-thirds of their proper wages.

In a strong statement condemning the entire "kick-back" scheme, Assistant District Attorney Thomas J. Kelly characterized the "tricks" and "devices" which he said were employed to "fool" Government inspectors as "diabolical practices which are a disgrace to the building industry of Philadelphia."

The grand jury specifically accused 11 of the defendants of conspiring to violate the Federal anti-pay "kick-back" law.

The 12th was indicted for "unlawfully enforcing the 'kick-back'" by compelling workers to return to the firm a part of their wages.

The grand jury began its investigation in November. The indictments were based on testimony given by scores of mechanics who worked on the PWA projects.

The Federal law carries a maximum sentence of two years imprisonment and a fine of \$10,000 for conviction on the conspiracy charge. The penalty for conviction on the "unlawfully enforcing kick-back" charge is a maximum term of five years in prison and a fine of \$5,000.

# APPRENTICE EXHIBIT TO BE SPECIAL FEATURE AT ANNUAL CONVENTION OF N. E. TYPO. UNION IN SPRINGFIELD

## Delegates To Be Guests of Springfield Local 216 at Banquet Commemorating 50th Anniversary of Union's In- stitution—Convention Program Replete With Important Matters for Discussion—All Locals Urged to Send Delegates.

Among other important matters scheduled for the annual convention of the New England Typographical Union will be held in Springfield, June 22-23, will be a display of work performed by apprentices, and which is expected will prove one of the special features of the convention.

According to a bulletin issued by the organization during the month, in which it announced the annual convention, it is hoped this will be the most successful ever held.

Officers and apprentice committees of all local unions are urged to see to it that the convention is a success, and that these should be mailed to President William J. Connelley, 74 Sterling Street, Pawtucket, not later than June 15th.

The convention will be held in the Bradley Hotel, and the call urged all affiliated locals to send men or women delegates. Questions arising regarding economic conditions, now held during the convention.

# Wagner Bill Changed To Ensure Its Constitutionality

Congress does not intend to be caught napping again on broad scale legislation. With this end in view, broad amendments to the Wagner Labor Disputes Bill were written into that proposed legislation. This is to remove any possible objections on the ground of claimed unconstitutionality.

Meanwhile, furthering those precautionary efforts, the Attorney General is said to be studying the Guffey Coal Stabilization Bill. As its name indicates, this is to create or extend the principles of the NRA to the coal industry, where strife is already raging.

Speaking for the United Textile Workers, Francis J. Gorman, vice-president of that organization, said the union was studying a bill for its industry under in general purpose to the Guffey legislation. Coincident with these deliberations, the executive council of the American Federation of Labor is studying a bill for its industry.

# NO MERCY WILL BE SHOWN "CHISLERS"

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# Woolen and Worsted Locals Told at Maynard, Mass., Convention by Officials of United Textile Workers of America They Can Take Strike Action Without Waiting for Official Sanction from Headquarters.

## "Deal With Legitimate Concerns Fairly, But Take Quick and Decisive Action Against Those Who Attempt to Lower Wages, Lengthen Working Hours or Change Work- ing Conditions." Was Message Enthusiastically Discussed by 300 Delegates Who Attended Department Meeting Sunday—Resolutions Submitted to Increase Per Capita Tax and in Other Ways Provide for Proper Functioning of Department, Re- ferred to Local Unions—Maine Delegates Take Prominent Part in Convention.

Maynard, Massachusetts, June 10.—There will be no half-measures taken in dealing with "chislers" who plan to take advantage of the abolition of the NRA to cut wages, lengthen working hours or in any way "chance" present working conditions in mills operated in the jurisdiction covered by the United Textile Workers of America.

In accordance with the plan conveyed by officials of the United Textile Workers of America, and discussed by the 300 delegates who represented 102 local unions at the convention of the Woolen and Worsted Department, held in Parker Street Hall yesterday, officials of local unions are authorized to take definite and immediate action without waiting for sanction from international headquarters.

This important pronouncement was delivered to the convention by Vice-President Horace A. Rittiere of the T. W. of A. and following a lengthy and most interesting discussion, during which all who participated in the debate were in the majority, it was unanimously adopted.

While there were several instances mentioned where manufacturers had taken advantage of the present situation to "chisel" wages, the delegates nearly all local in New England there, it was pointed out in the discussion, "We must be on the watch, and ready to act at once, lest some of our manufacturers might decide to kick over the traces," said one delegate.

We must also keep our minds that are not organized, as it is from this source where the greatest danger lies. We must take measures to make workers employed in such mills see that to meekly submit to these changes would mean the return of the \$4 or 60 hour work week, low wages and extra machine load, and other conditions as these related prior to the inauguration of the NRA."

"We have a big job on our hands, and all must be on the alert lest the chislers would prove too great a strain for legitimate manufacturers," he said. "We all know that there are no organizing committees established these at once, and all members of these related prior to the inauguration of the NRA."

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# A. F. OF L. LOSES OUT IN EFFORTS TO ENJOIN B. T. D.

## Court Ruled Officers Elected at Original Convention Remain in Charge

Claim of President M. M. McDonough That Second Convention Called by  
Officers of Unions Was Invalid—Court  
Ordered by Washington Court—The  
Court Ruled in Favor of the Officers  
of All Funds and Control of Dept.

According to news from Washington, the injunction sought by the American Federation of Labor to restrain the officials of the Building Trades Department from holding a second convention was denied by the District Court of the District of Columbia.



M. J. McDONOUGH

Department elected at the regular convention last October in San Francisco after functioning and demanding the lifting over to them of all funds, and effects held by the original officers, was denied by Judge Jesse G. Adkins in the District of Columbia Supreme Court.

The police ruled that the officers (Continued on Page 8)

# Two Mills Reported as Having Gone on 48-Hour Week

## 200 Delegates Present at Bangorville Meeting of Maine Textile Council Firm in Determination to Resist Wage Cuts, Lengthening of Working Hours and Changes in Conditions Following Scrapping of NRA—Next Meet- ing in Fairfield, July 13th.

Mills in Old Town and Fairfield were the only ones reported as having gone on a 48-hour week scheduled at the annual meeting of the Maine Textile Council, held in Bangorville last Saturday afternoon. This meeting was the largest held since the Council was formed, there being 200 delegates in attendance, and which much business of importance was transacted.

Delegates representing Brunswick, Augusta, Lewiston, Bangor, and other mills, reported no change in conditions following the scrapping of the NRA, and are prepared to continue the 48-hour work week and other conditions under, under rules, unless the strain becomes too strong as the result of cut-throat competition from chiseling manufacturers.

It was estimated that a 48-hour week, where Organized Joseph S. Porfiri has established a fairly competitive position, that good progress is being made, and that with the coming of Vice-President Rittiere, the situation is being handled in a more aggressive manner.

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# STATE LEGISLATURE ASKS PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT CAMPAIGN FOR ENACTMENT OF UNIFORM WAGES AND WORK HOURS

## Takes Initiative in Movement to Keep National Recovery Act Labor Standards Intact—Promptly by Interstate Compacts Commission and Seeks to Establish Minimum Wage Law in All Industrial States.

Boston, Massachusetts, June 8.—Action to preserve benefits of the NRA labor standards, through mutual contracts by industrial states, was begun with the filing in the Massachusetts Legislature of a resolution by President Roosevelt to support of the Interstate Compacts Commission, which was created by the Legislature in 1933, and other New England states on matters affecting labor.

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# MASS. BRANCH TO CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

## Springfield Meeting Marks 50th Year of Activities in Labor Movement

### Biggest Convention Ever Held in History of Organization Anticipated— All Affiliated Locals Urged to Send Delegates—Union Label Crafts to Meet During Convention.

Central Labor Unions and local unions affiliated with the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor are in receipt of the call for the annual convention, to be held in Springfield beginning at 10 o'clock Monday morning, August 12th, and to continue until the business of the convention has been completed.

The convention will be held in the Springfield Auditorium and the headquarters will be at the Hotel Eldorado.

In the call issued by the Executive Council, mention is made regarding the organization's celebration of its 50th anniversary.

(Continued on Page 8)

## Legislative Measures

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# AUGUST

## MAINE FORESTRY SERVICE CONDUCTING THREE-FOLD PROGRAM FOR PROTECTION OF STATE'S IMPORTANT RESOURCES

**Forest Fire Prevention and Control, Insect Destruction and Elimination of White Pine Blister Rust Demand the Cooperation of Many Interests—Forests Are Major Recreational Asset.**

The Maine Forest Service in its system of supervision and fire prevention for 15,000,000 acres of woodlands; in its militant campaign against insect scourges; and the control of white pine blister rust, protects one of the State's greatest resources. Extensive lumbering and pulp operations carried on in the vast timber preserves have, in recent decades, concentrated the State's lumber industry.

The forest protection program of the department is broken down into three divisions: fire, insect and disease. The department is headed by Forest Commissioner Neil L. Violette, with Henry B. Peirson as his assistant in charge of insect control, and Walter O. Frost as blister rust agent. George H. Grier, George A. Paulsen, Robert G. Stubbs, Asa E. Wilkins, Harry O. Grier, and E. C. Clapnick are the district supervisors.

**Recreational Attractions**  
The importance of the forest protection service is realized when it is pointed out by members of the Maine Department of Conservation and other officials, that, in addition to their intrinsic value, the forests are one of the greatest attractions to the tourists seeking scenic splendor of the State.

Fire protection work is divided into two programs, one for the protection of the State, and the other for the forests in organized towns. The first classification concerns the protection of the State, which includes the following: all plantations, 12 towns and 15 islands, with a total forest area of about 15,000,000 acres. Fire, with millions acres in towns under the Forest Service, are protected through the cooperation of municipal officials with the Forest Service.

**Forest Fire Prevention**  
Fire protection in the Maine Forest Service is carried out through supervision from 75 lookout stations located at strategic points to give a view of the entire acreage. The system includes 107 camps, 103 miles of telephone lines, 10,000 fire fighting tools, 14 motor boats, 65 canoes, 41 canoes, and 1000 to 1500 feet of hose each, and 1,077 hand tools.

**Lumber Industry**  
The State's forests led the nation in the lumber industry and eventually spread to the West Coast. The first sawmill in the United States was built in 1818—80 years ago—in South Berwick. At that time, white pine, "the King of Woods," was the only lumber manufactured into lumber. Since that date this "royal tree" has been the backbone of the State's economic development.

**White Pine Blister Rust Control**  
The Maine Forest Service, in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is carrying on a campaign against a disease—white pine blister rust—which is threatening the 3,000,000 acres of white pine estimated to be worth \$100,000,000. Already hundreds of thousands of acres are under control. To date, 11,000 pine owners have cooperated with the Forest Service, and 551 towns appropriate funds have been raised, with the result that over 25 million current and future acres have been protected as a check against spread of the disease on 22,000,000 acres. Blister rust, the most destructive disease affecting the white pine, and white pine beetle, the most destructive insect pest, are also checked in the White Pine State.

**Insect Control**  
The Forest Service warfare against insects is one of the most valuable, and the same time, the most difficult, of the Department's work. It is aimed to combat both the white pine sawfly, which kills deciduous trees, and the white pine beetle, which destroys approximately 3,000,000 acres of trees annually.

At Bar Harbor, the Service maintains a laboratory where the life history of various insects is studied, and control measures are developed. New sprays are also tested.

The forest protection work has gained prestige through new regulations that now require that all tree-spraying op-

erations be of financial value to the State. The State has permitted the so-called "Public Forest" to dominate the people's homes without any intelligent effort being made to control the pestiferous, or giving undue versions of our battles and struggles. The State has permitted the people to paint their efforts to win a fair share of the wealth we produce in terms of labor, wages, and working conditions. In unfair banners of red and every way degrading us and our organizations that is permissible up to the law, and in some cases by methods that are not.

"Truth Lies Thriving on Desert of Ignorance."  
"No doubt there has been a lack of Labor papers, but this has been caused by lack of support. Improving this condition is a part of this plan. Unfortunately, our people have not responded to the plea of our leaders to support Labor papers, therefore, may an ambitious paper be failed by the warlike and Truth lies thriving on the desert of Ignorance." This is a problem deserving careful consideration and study, for solution is imperative.

When, and only when, OUR PAPER, carrying OUR STRUGGLES, is in the hands of the masses, will the working man's language, as he may understand, will our field of organization open up to its fullest extent. We can then expect to feel the harvest of intelligent trade union members who have so long been seeking this education will mean the end of the ignorance which thrives on, for people who are fully acquainted with our aims, desires, thoughts and problems are easier to organize, harder for the bosses to lie or to deceive away from their rights.

The proposed plan outlines conditions which are expressed on the hands of signs throughout the State, the public to "Prevent Forest Fires." The State Government, through the Forest Service, is now carrying on a campaign to prevent forest fires, and the plan herewith attached, which we hope will bring a little closer to solution.

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An array of talent is on the speaking program, and the subjects will be of interest to the Labor movement. Among those slated to address the opening session on Tuesday morning are Governor Louis J. Brand and Organizer Frank P. Weston, who will present the report of the American Federation of Labor. President Thomas F. Mahan of the C. N. Kimball, Brother of Carpenters and Joiners, President John F. Boudreau, President of the Paper Mill Workers, Col. Robert L. Grier, President of the State Legion, John J. Egan, secretary of the National Federation of Labor, and Freeman M. Salter, editor of the Labor News.

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**Port of Portland**  
A proposition which is existing general interest throughout the State is the further development of the Port of Portland. Interested in this project, and who are creating considerable interest, are Judge Herbert J. Wainwright and others.

**MERRILL BROS.**  
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Corner of Water St. Augusta, Me.

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Open From 10 A. M. to Midnight

**BOOTH AND TABLE SERVICE**  
BEER ON DRAUGHT

# TOGUS VETERAN HOSPITAL JOB STRICTLY UNION, AND CARPENTERS HAVE TWICE AS MANY MEMBERS AS LAST YEAR

## Augusta Building Mechanics Benefit Generally, and It's Estimated Work Will Last Another Year—More Painters Working at Present Than in Past Five Years—All Augusta Locals to Send Delegates to Portland Convention.

Secretary Charles H. Burgess of the Maine State Federation of Labor, in his report on the building conditions in the building industry in Augusta, this applying particularly to the Togus Veterans Hospital, which he says is a strictly union job, and that the prevailing rates of wages are paid according to PWA scales and mechanics. All trades are receiving greater benefit than they have at any time since the business depression of 1929.

When, and only when, OUR PAPER, carrying OUR STRUGGLES, is in the hands of the masses, will the working man's language, as he may understand, will our field of organization open up to its fullest extent. We can then expect to feel the harvest of intelligent trade union members who have so long been seeking this education will mean the end of the ignorance which thrives on, for people who are fully acquainted with our aims, desires, thoughts and problems are easier to organize, harder for the bosses to lie or to deceive away from their rights.

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Local building trades officials express much satisfaction over the terms agreed upon with the superintendent in charge of construction at Togus, who is state that allied mechanics are given preference. It is estimated the job will last in the neighborhood of \$1,500,000 and is good for a year's work.

Judging from the number of Augusta locals which have sent their delegates for the annual convention of the Maine State Federation, which opened in Portland this (Tuesday) morning, indications are that some very building trades local will be present at this job. Last year the unions which, during the past few years, have manifested much interest in the United States Supreme Court's decision abolishing the NRA, and these are all present at this subject of setting constructive action taken by the convention in this subject.

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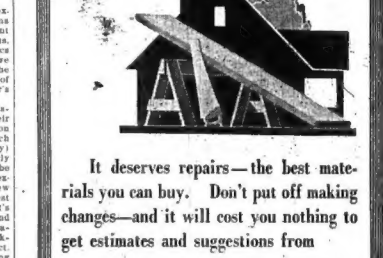
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**AUGUSTA LUMBER CO.**

**St. Railway President Starts on 4 Months' Tour This Week**  
Robert R. Goddard, president of Division 121, Street Railway Employees' Local Union No. 521, at the regular meeting held on June 8th, voted to increase the local's initiation fee to \$10.

Robert R. Goddard, president of Division 121, Street Railway Employees' Local Union No. 521, at the regular meeting held on June 8th, voted to increase the local's initiation fee to \$10. The meeting was held at the local's headquarters, 121 South Street, and was attended by a large number of members.

**Matters Getting Worse at Pepperell Mills; Now on 4-Day Week**  
Things are going from bad to worse at the Pepperell Mills, according to reports made public during the week. The situation is becoming more and more desperate, and it is estimated that the mill will be closed in a matter of days.

**Increased Employment for Bldg. Mechanics in Lewiston-Auburn**  
The recent big fire in Lewiston destroyed property valued at \$250,000, and a large number of mechanics are now working on the rebuilding of the property. It is estimated that the rebuilding will create a large number of jobs for mechanics.

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